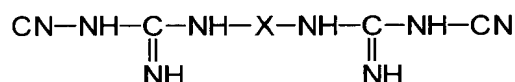


5. (Amended) An antimicrobial polymer according to claim 1 wherein the chromophoric marker is covalently bound to the antimicrobial polymer as a pendant group or a terminal group on the polymer chain, or as an in-chain group in the polymer chain.

A2
6. (Amended) An antimicrobial polymer according to claim 1 wherein the chromophoric marker is present as a terminal or pendant group on the polymer chain and the antimicrobial polymer to which the chromophoric marker is bound is an antimicrobial poly(quaternary ammonium) compound, a polymeric guanide or a polymeric biguanide.

10. (Amended) An antimicrobial polymer according to claim 1 obtainable by co-polymerising a chromophoric marker, a bisdicyandiamide having the formula:



and a diamine $\text{H}_2\text{N}-\text{Y}-\text{NH}_2$, wherein X and Y are as defined in claim 8.

A4
12. (Amended) An antimicrobial polymer according to claim 1 wherein the covalent bond between the chromophoric marker and polymer is formed by means of one or more reactive functional group on the chromophoric marker which is capable of forming a covalent bond with the polymer and/or monomer precursors used to make the polymer.

18. (Amended) A composition comprising antimicrobial polymers at least one of which is an antimicrobial polymer according to claim 1.

19. (Amended) A composition comprising a carrier and an antimicrobial polymer according to claim 1 or a composition according to claim 18.

A5
20. (Amended) A method for inhibiting microbiological growth on, or in, a medium which comprises treating the medium with an antimicrobial polymer according to claim 1 or a composition according to claim 18.

21. (Amended) A method for detecting an antimicrobial polymer according to claim 1 on or in a medium comprising the steps:

- (a) subjecting a sample of the medium containing an antimicrobial polymer to a detection means whereby the presence of the chromophoric marker in the antimicrobial polymer generates a detection signal; and optionally

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- (b) calculating the concentration of the antimicrobial polymer from the detection signal generated in step (a).
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23. (Amended) A method for maintaining the concentration of an antimicrobial polymer according to claim 1 in a medium at or above a target concentration comprising the steps:

- 16
- (a) measuring the concentration of the antimicrobial polymer in the medium using the method according to claim 21;
- (b) comparing the measured concentration with the target concentration; and
- (c) adding a sufficient quantity of further antimicrobial polymer to the medium to maintain the concentration of the antimicrobial polymer in the medium at or above the target concentration.
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Please refer to the attached Appendix for changes made to the above claims.

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